

## Technical Bulletin #101:

# Round Eggplant Quality Standards for Local Market Demand

## Introduction

Producing high quality round eggplant to meet the required market standards is very important for Cambodia HARVEST producer groups and clients.

Results from market surveys in the four HARVEST provinces shows that there are two distinct varieties that are in demand. In Battambang (BTB) and Kampong Thom (KPT), the market prefers either oval or round shape fruit with a light green or almost white color (left image), whereas in Pursat (PUR) and Siem Reap (SRP) provinces favor a dark green fruit with a striped color (right below image).

The standard quality characteristic for round eggplant are: glossy smooth skin, round or oval shape, dark green or lighter green in color depending on the variety, white flesh and stem & calyx attached.

Cambodia HARVEST is recommending two varieties that meet the quality characteristics and that is high yielding and demonstrates good tolerance to pest/diseases. To date the best varieties for lighter green eggplant are **TN 149 FI** and **EW Hybrid Round Eggplant Pingpong**, and for the darker eggplant, **East West Seed Company Kermit FI** and **Da Ech TN 121**.

## Round or Oval Eggplant Standards

Round or oval eggplant should be:

- Harvest early in the morning preferably under dry conditions
  - Stem and calyx attached to the fruit (at least 1.5 cm long)
  - Oval or round in shape.
  - Glossy light or dark green in color depending on the variety
- Fruit diameter can vary from 3 to 5.5 cm (the same size as the cap of a water bottle 500 ml/volume).
- Uniform in size and shape either round or oval.
- No foreign matter presented such as dust, debris, leaves etc.
- No insects or pests damage.
- Not affected by rotting
- Rejected if the fruit is bruised, drooped, pre or over-maturity, deformed and calyx detached.
- Presentation: The same grade, variety and color should be packed together



Variety meeting BTB & KPT  
market requirements



Variety meeting market  
requirements in PUR & SRP

## Round or Oval Eggplant Sizes Required by the Market

Round or Oval Eggplant			
Characteristic	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Freshness required	95 - 100%	90 - 95%	80 - 90%
Stem length (should be attached to fruit)	1.5 - 2 cm	1.5 - 2 cm	≤ 1.5 cm
Fruit diameter	4.3 – 4.5 cm	≤ 4 cm	4.5 – 5.5 cm
Glossy fruit	Yes	Yes	No
Fruit shape	Round	Round or Oval	Round or Oval
Nº fruit per kg	20 - 22 fruits	26 - 30 fruits	15 - 20 fruits
Calyx attached	Yes	Yes	Yes

## Round Eggplant Grading Based on Characteristic:



Grade 1



Grade 2



Grade 3

## Rejected Products:



Insect Spoilage



Stem & calyx detached



Deformed



Bruised

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